2013 J. IRWIN MILLER HUMAN RIGHTS ART CONTEST



TOPIC:

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

"Access, engagement and relationships" reminds us of the vital links that make a connected, livable community. If our communities are to grow and prosper, we must develop "Community Connections" through access, civic engagement and by encouraging neighbors to support one another.

2013 Campaign Theme from the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities



Columbus Human Rights Commission 123 Washington St. #5 Columbus, IN 47201 (812) 376-2532

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

2013 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ESSAY & ART CONTESTS

This year, the Human Rights Commission is sponsoring two contests. An essay and an art contest for the students in Bartholomew County in grades five through twelve. There will be a winner for each contest - the essay contest and art contest - from each division: division 1 - grades 5 & 6 (grade school); division 2 - grades 7 & 8 (middle school); division 3 - grades 9 through 12 (high school. Students are invited to enter either the essay contest or the art contest or students may enter both. The intent of the contests is to create an awareness and appreciation of our community's diversity and for human rights. You are invited to share this information with your students and encourage their participation. You may want to include the essay and art topic in your classroom or youth group curriculum or you may want to leave it as an enrichment or special project for individual students.

- **1. ENTRY FORM:** Please make sure that each student has a fully completed entry form attached to their essay or artwork and that their name appears <u>ONLY</u> on the entry form and <u>NOT</u> on their essay or the artwork. The information on the entry form is necessary for us to contact contest winners. The entry form is at the end of **THIS** packet.
- **2. CRITERIA:** The artwork will be judged for students' recognition of key human rights values and for responses, which include creativity, artistic expression and specificity in relating to the topic.
- 3. DEADLINE: Friday, Feb. 15th, 2013

Hand Delivery to the Commission:

You may hand deliver your essays or artwork to the Human Rights Commission, no later than <u>Feb.</u> <u>15th, 2013</u>. No entries will be accepted after that date.

OR

For Essay/ Artwork Pickup at Schools:

Entries for pick up should be taken to your school's office <u>Feb. 15th, 2013</u>, and marked "ATTENTION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ESSAY CONTEST/ ART CONTEST". Inform the office staff that you are leaving them for pick up by the Human Rights Commission. To arrange for your essays/artwork to be picked up, please call the Human Rights Commission office, 376-2532 prior to delivery of the essays to your school office and leave a message that you want your students' essays/artwork picked up. <u>Please call to schedule pick up by 9:00 am, Feb. 15th, 2013</u>

4. JUDGING & AWARDS: A panel of community members will judge the essays and artwork on Monday, March 11th, 2013. Essays and artwork will be assigned numbers so judges will not know the identity of the students.

Essay and art contest winners, their teacher, and their school will be notified in the days following the judging. Winners will receive a \$75, a collection of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s essays, and complimentary tickets (for the student, his/her parents, and his/her teacher) to the Commission's Annual Dinner on April 10th, 2013 where the student will be recognized. Winning essays will be published on the Commission's website, annual report, and submitted to the National Legacy, Listen to a Life Contest. Winners will receive further information about the dinner.

If you have further questions or need other assistance, please call Lorraine Smith, Director or Frances L. Jordan, Deputy Director, # 376-2532 or humanrights@columbus.in.gov

J. IRWIN MILLER HUMAN RIGHTS ART CONTEST

2013 Art Contest Topic:

BACKGROUND:

Each March, Disability Awareness Month is celebrated throughout Indiana. And given that adults and children with disabilities represent slightly more than 19 percent of Indiana's population, disability awareness is important for all of us. Led by the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, the goal of Disability Awareness Month is to increase awareness and promote independence, integration and inclusion of all people with disabilities.

The 2013 campaign theme from Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is "Community Connections." The poster artwork features a fully connected, livable community with housing, access to services, the arts, recreation, culture, streets and everyday living essentials that do not have barriers. appropriate housing, supportive and accessible community services, and physical and environmental features that allow everyone to live independently. The text, "Access, engagement and relationships" reminds us of the vital links that make a connected, livable community. If our communities are to grow and prosper, we must develop "Community Connections" through access, civic engagement and by encouraging neighbors to support one another.

There are many kinds of disabilities – some are easily recognizable while others, such as learning disabilities, are not visible. For persons with disabilities— they feel like they are "people first" and their disability is just one aspect of their life. Most people with disabilities don't want to be defined by the disability. All people need and deserve understanding and respect – whether they have a disability or not.

People with disabilities want to tear down barriers. A barrier is anything that prevents or hinders people with disabilities from being independent, productive and included in the community. There are physical as well as attitudinal barriers created by someone's biased beliefs based on stereotypes.

Physical barriers can include stairs, lack of Braille signs, or telephones and drinking fountains mounted too high for persons using wheelchairs to have access to them. Attitudinal barriers can include language used when speaking to or about people with disabilities; ignoring people with disabilities because they make us feel uncomfortable; or not including people with disabilities in a program or activity.

Art Contest Topic & Criteria:

Create a work of art that depicts one or more of the following:

A. Illustration of the theme "Community Connections"-- The 2013 theme artwork features a diverse group of people – of <u>different ages</u>, <u>ethnicities and abilities</u> –in a vibrant community. It encourages everyone to contribute to an inclusive community.

OR

B. A celebration and illustration of the Columbus Human Rights Commission's protection of persons with disabilities from discrimination.

YOU MAY USE GUIDANCE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO YOU IN THE "ART CONTEST TOOL BOX" TO ASSIST YOU AND INSPIRE YOU BEFORE YOU CREATE YOUR ARTWORK, AND HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE TOPIC THEME!

ART CONTEST DIRECTIONS & INSTRUCTIONS:

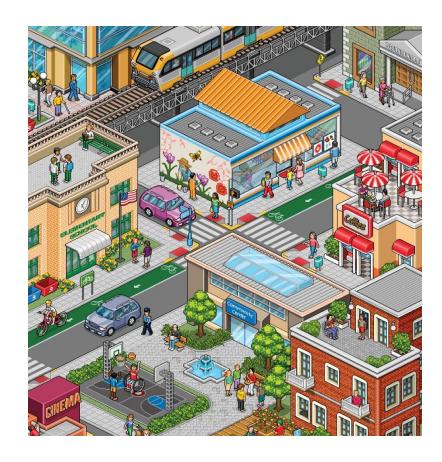
The artwork:

- ♦ Must be on paper or poster-art board **no larger than 11 in. x 17 in.**, and no smaller than 8-½ in. x 11 in.
- ♦ May be in any medium (e.g. pen & ink, charcoal, pencil, watercolor, flair tip pens, collage, a single photograph, a combination of photographs).
- ♦ Must be **BLACK & WHITE** (gray is permitted).
- Must be submitted unframed. Must not be folded or stapled.
- ♦ Artist's name must <u>NOT</u> appear in the artwork. (Your name, address, etc. must be filled in on the submission form and attached to the back of your artwork. (Entries will be judged anonymously)

By submitting an entry, you are agreeing to it being reproduced and displayed by the Commission, always with attribution to the artist. Any and all entries may be reproduced and displayed within the Commission's Annual Report or in other written materials produced by the Commission. The Commission may super-impose the name of our organization on the art work, in order to use it as a cover for our annual report. Your work will be judged for your artistic expression of the topic and your creativity.

Please contact the Human Rights Commission for requests for reasonable accommodations in order to participate in this contest.

ART CONTEST TOOL BOX



YOU **MAY USE THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE INFORMATION PROVIDED BELOW** TO ASSIST YOU AND INSPIRE YOU BEFORE YOU CREATE YOUR ARTWORK AND HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE TOPIC THEME!

Definitions:

Bias: An unfair act or policy stemming from prejudice

Bullying: when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose. The person being bullied has a hard time defending himself or herself. Usually, bullying happens over and over. It can include repeated pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, excluding someone, spreading rumors, and sending nasty emails and notes.

Bystander: a non-participant spectator; a person near an event who chooses to remain uninvolved; a term also used to refer to people who refused to speak out against hate crimes, discrimination of any injustice.

Collaborator Any person or organization who shares expertise, facilities, equipment, or financial support; someone who assists; an associate who works with others toward a common goal.

Civil disobedience: Deliberate, open, and peaceful violation of particular laws, decrees, regulations, military or police orders, or other governmental directives; the deliberate breaking of a law in order to draw public attention and debate to a cause or issue. Civil rights activists working with Rev. Martin Luther King often used this approach to challenge segregation. King defended such actions as justified, provided that those challenging the law do so "lovingly" and with a willingness to accept the penalty.

Cold War: Intense economic, political, military, and ideological rivalry between nations, short of military conflict; sustained hostile political policies and an atmosphere of strain between opposed countries. The freedom of movement was withheld from the citizens and their freedoms and rights were constrained. The Cold War was the continuing state from roughly 1946 to 1991 of political conflict, military tension, proxy wars, and economic competition between the Communist World—primarily the Soviet Union and its satellite states and allies—and the powers of the Western world, primarily the United States and its allies.

Communism: A theory or system of social organization based on the holding of all property in common, actual ownership being ascribed to the community as a whole or to the state.

Dehumanization: To deprive of human qualities or attributes; divest of individuality.

Diversity: Group differences (such as race, sex, color, national origin, religion, disability, etc.)

Genocide: Deliberate and systematic destruction of a racial, political, cultural, or religious group.

Harassment: Bullying someone about specific things-- race/color, gender, religion, national origin, and disability is harassment. Harassment is a subset of bullying. Harassment is against the law (even when you are a grownup). Harassment is against the school's policies and your school will investigate if you are harassed! You should talk to your teacher or your principal.

Hero: a person distinguished by exceptional courage; someone who fights for a cause, despite feeling fear.

Hostile environment: a legal term describing the work or school atmosphere that can be created by harassment. Hostile environment can be created by:

- unwelcome sexual advances, other verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature or slurs or mistreatment based on race, religion, national origin, color, disability, and sex) by another student
- Must be either:
 - severe (can be only one time) or
 - happen over and over (persistent and pervasive)
- Affects student's education or activities so much so that no reasonable student would want to go to school or participate in that activity

Honor: show respect towards; bestow a reward upon; to express admiration, respect or esteem toward another person.

Martyr: one who suffers for the sake of principle; one who voluntarily suffers death as the penalty for refusing to renounce their religion.

Paradigm Shift: A radical change in underlying beliefs or theory

Rescuer: a person who rescues you from harm or danger; someone who saves something from danger or violence

Service: An act of assistance or benefit to another or others

Social justice: The act of improving a situation or correcting a wrong or a social problem

Relevant Quotes You May Consider:

Many well-known writers, politicians and social activists have expressed thoughts on the link between standing up for or defending others, justice, and human rights. You may if you choose examine the following quotes as a tool to write your essay:

"In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it. " - <u>Marianne</u> Williamson

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own." - Cesar Chavez

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." – **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

"There are no constraints on the human mind, no walls around the human spirit, no barriers to our progress except those we ourselves erect."

Ronald Reagan

"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college she attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world."--Eleanor Roosevelt

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." -- Edmund Burke

"Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures."

John F. Kennedy

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

Jackie Robinson

- "They say the world has become too complex for simple answers. They are wrong. There are no easy answers, but there are simple answers. We must have the courage to do what we know is morally right."—<u>Ronald Reagan</u>
- "...agape [ä-gä-pā] means 'a profound concern for the welfare of another without any desire to control that other, to be thanked by that other, or to enjoy the process.' Not easy. But if we can follow it, it will mean that we will never exclude [anyone]."---Madeleine L'Engle, in A Circle of Quiet
- "I seldom think of my limitations, and they never make me sad. Perhaps there is just a touch of yearning at times; but it is vague, like a breeze among flowers." **Helen Keller**
- "Great spirits have often encountered violent opposition from weak minds." **Albert Einstein**
- "Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at it destination full of hope." <u>Maya Angelou</u>
- "There must be no barriers for freedom of inquiry. There is no place for dogma in science. The scientist is free, and must be free to ask any question, to doubt any assertion, to seek for any evidence, to correct any errors."

 J Robert
 Oppenheimer

Online Resources:

Top Ten People who Overcame their Disabilitieshttp://www.toptenz.net/10-people-who-overcame-theirdisablities.php

Barrier Breakers: Definition of Discriminationhttp://www.barrierbreakers.com/blog/definition-of-discrimination

Teaching Tolerance

http://www.tolerance.org

ADL Curriculum Connections

http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/fall_2005/

The Arc of Indiana http://www.arcind.org/

National Organization on Disability http://www.nod.org/

Videos:

Lifting Up a Voice: Paving A Path To Justice In Columbushhttp://www.columbus.in.gov/human-rights/video/videolifting-up-a-voice/

"COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS" J. IRWIN MILLER ART CONTEST

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